present invention are formulated to yield healthy lactating ruminants that produce milk with unexpected benefits for the herdsman, including unexpectedly high levels of butterfat and milk protein.

[0050] When lactating ruminants are fed the instant diet embodiments, whether or not the instant diet program is used, the antimicrobial compounds and nutritive components present in the liquid or dry inedible egg fraction minimize or eliminate the need to feed drugs to the animals, and thereby minimize or eliminate the significant costs presently associated with treating diseases in these animals. These compounds and nutritive components are also capable of curing certain microbe-caused diseases. Further, both the liquid and dry feedstuffs have an excellent amino acid profile, constitute rich sources of high quality protein, and are easy to digest. It is easy to pelletize compositions including a high quality inedible egg fraction because the egg lubricates the machinery and reduces power consumption of the pelletizing apparatus. Lactating ruminants fed compositions according to the present invention produce milk with increased levels of butterfat and milk protein over the levels of these milk components produced by animals fed a prior art feed composition.

[0051] While the invention has been described in detail in the foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only the preferred embodiments have been shown and described, and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the invention are desired to be protected.

What is claimed is:

1. An egg-based feed composition for lactating ruminants, consisting essentially of, by weight:

high quality inedible egg from about 1% to 100%; and

at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of:

milk product, cereal grain or cereal grain product, fruit pectin, other carbohydrate, fiber, fat, urea, electrolyte, vitamin, mineral, yeast, and other animal protein and/or vegetable protein balance.

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